

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

In compliance with the Revised Amendment Format, the text of all claims under examination is submitted, and the status of each is identified.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A composition of matter prepared in accordance with a method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) combining a substance selected from the group consisting of: metal or metalloid, or an alloy thereof, or a compound thereof, or an homogeneous or inhomogeneous combination of at least two of the metal or metalloid, the alloy thereof, or the compound thereof, with a source of hydrogen, to form a first intermediate;
 - (b) milling the first intermediate to effect reaction between the substance and the hydrogen to form a second intermediate;
 - (c) combining the second intermediate with a source of an electronegative element, to form a third intermediate; and
 - (d) milling the third intermediate to effect reaction between the second intermediate and the electronegative element.

2-68: Cancelled.